

Jan. 14, 2011

This Week:

- State of Transportation Presentation to HTC and STC
- Presentation to HTC on the Ferry System Funding Problem
- Briefings with New Transportation Committee Legislators
- Meeting with Ferry District Legislators

State of Transportation Presentation to HTC and STC

This week, I joined Secretary Paula Hammond at the House Transportation Committee (HTC) and Senate Transportation Committee (STC) when she gave the State of Transportation presentation. I appreciated the opportunity to be a part of this presentation, which covered broad transportation issues as well as issues specific to the ferry system. The presentations are available at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

Presentation to HTC on the Ferry System Funding Problem

On Thursday, I reported to the House Transportation Committee (HTC) on the ferry system's funding problem which led to the Governor's budget proposal and ferry district proposal, two topics that I covered in my most recent weekly emails (see www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly). My presentation highlighted that the ferry system has lost an estimated \$1.2 billion in Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET) revenue since 2000 following the passage of Initiative 695. In response to the loss of MVET, WSF has reduced service and raised fares over the past decade beginning in 2000. On top of that, we have also made non-service reductions amounting to a savings of \$28 million per year. However, even with the Governor's proposed service reductions and fare increases, we are still in the red after the 2011-2013 biennium. The funding problem for the ferry system is enormous and I look forward to working with the legislature on this significant issue. My presentation is available at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

Briefings with New Transportation Committee Members

I have started to meet with new legislators to the House and Senate Transportation Committees. Given the challenging issues facing the committees this session, I want to ensure good communication between the Ferries Division and committee members.

Meeting with Ferry District Legislators

Later today, at the request of Rep. Seaquist, I am meeting with legislators and others to talk more about the ferry system funding problem. I will review the presentation that I gave to the House Transportation Committee and overview the ferry service reductions proposed by the Governor in her budget. Handouts for this meeting are available at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

Next Week:

- Washington State Transportation Committee Meeting
- WSDOT Senior Managers Meeting
- Meeting with U.S. Coast Guard

David Moseley's weekly reports are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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